

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 070773

20

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 SCA-01 DPW-01 OMB-01 GAC-01 /110 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ P: STAFF: PP

4/16/73 EXT 22538

APPROVED BY EA/ P: AHROSEN

----- 088149

R 162205 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY MANILA

CINCPAC

UNCLAS STATE 070773

E. O. 11652

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: APRIL 16 INDOCHINA PRESS SUMMARY

1. ALL PAPERS REPORT FANK- SUPPORTED GVN RANGER THRUST
ONE- HALF MILE INTO CAMBODIA FROM TINH BIEN. NYT SAIGON
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 070773

REPORTS DOS OFFICIAL AT CHAU DOC SAYS 10,000 CAMBODIAN REFUGEES CROSSED INTO SVN SINCE MID- FEBRUARY. THREE TANKERS MAKE IT UP MEKONG TO PP UNDER USAF FIGHTER- BOMBER AND CAMBODIAN CHOPPER ESCORT. COMMUNISTS HIT AMMO BARGE.

2. NYT' S TREASTER REPORTS PP WESTERN DIPLOMATS CLAIM CAMBODIA BOMBING BEING CARRIED OUT ON BASIS INADEQUATE INTELLIGENCE AND WITHOUT SUFFICIENT CONTROLS, CAUSING HIGH CIVILIAN CASUALTIES. DIPLOMAT SAYS, " AMERICANS ARE THROWING AIR SUPPORT AROUND LIKE A MAD WOMAN." BOMBING SAID TO HAVE SLOWED INSURGENTS AND SAVED LON NOL GOVERNMENT FROM COLLAPSE. GKR OFFICIALS ACKNOWLEDGE CIVILIAN CASUALTIES, BUT SAY THIS CAN' T BE HELPED. LON NON SAYS " AMERICANS CAN USE ANY MEANS THEY LIKE TO GET THE NORTH VIETNAMESE OUT OF OUR TERRITORY." US AIR OPS SAID BASED UPON FAULTY KHMER INTELLIGENCE, BUT TREASTER ACKNOWLEDGES IMPOSSIBLE INDEPENDENTLY TO DOCUMENT CIVILIAN IMPACT. ONE AMERICAN SAYS US HAS TO ASK ITSELF WHETHER MILITARY GAINS ARE WORTH POLITICAL COSTS IN ALIENATED CIVIL POPULATION. DIPLOMAT SAYS, " YOU JUST CANNOT WIN A REVOLUTIONARY WAR WITH AIR POWER. WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, YOU AMERICANS LOST THE WAR IN VIETNAM BECAUSE YOU INSISTED ON FIGHTING TO THE LAST B-52."

3. SIHANOUK LETTER TO PRAVDA APPEALS TO MOSCOW TO BREAK OFF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH GKR. IN PEKING NEWS CONFERENCE, HE SAYS HE INTENDS TO RETURN TO POWER IN CAMBODIA SOON AS SUPPORTERS CAPTURE CITY. IN RADIO HANOI INTERVIEW, HE SAYS NIXON " HAS HAD TO THINK ABOUT" USING THAI TROOPS (WP, WSJ).

4. POST ARTICLE ON FSI BY DUSKO DODER SAYS FAILURE OF DOS TO RESPOND QUICKLY ENOUGH TO LINGUISTIC NEEDS WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR " MANY MISCALCULATIONS" IN VN WAR.

5. ICCS- CANADA' S GAUVIN PROPOSES CHOPPER SHOOT- DOWN SURVIVORS BE ENABLED TRACE CHOPPERS' PATH TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY WERE OFF COURSE. SAYS NONE OF SURVIVORS WAS ON ICCS INVESTIGATING TEAM WHICH CONCLUDED THEY WERE OFF COURSE AND VC FORBADE ANY AVIATION EXPERTS ON TEAM. IN LIGHT INSISTENCE OF US PILOTS OF SURVIVING CHOPPER THAT CRAFT WERE ON COURSE, AND FACT US UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 070773

AUTHORITIES INDICATE THEY HAVE EVIDENCE DOWNED CRAFT

WERE MOVED FROM CRASH SITE TO OFF- COURSE SITE, GAUVIN BELIEVES RE- INVESTIGATION IN ORDER (SUN).

6. GVN OFFICIAL SAYS GVN WILL NOT REDUCE SIZE OF ARMED FORCES IN 1973 AND HAS PLANS FOR ONLY MINOR DEMOBILIZATION IN 1974 (WP, LIPPMAN).

7. NYT' S FOX RUNS BIO SKETCH ON EMBASSY SAIGON' S CAPABLE DAO PAO ANN BOTTORFF, STRESSING HER ASIAN EXPERIENCE AND NOTING HER INTELLIGENCE BACKGROUND.

8. SIXTH ANNUAL ASEAN MEETING OPENS TODAY IN BANGKOK. THREE- DAY SESSION WILL CONSIDER INDOCHINA AID (UPI, NYDN).

9. INTERVIEWED ON " MEET THE PRESS," LEE KUAN YEW SAYS IT IS UNLIKELY THAT LIBERATION MOVEMENTS WILL FIND ENOUGH FOLLOWERS TO OVERTURN ESTABLISHED SEASIA GOVERNMENTS. ADDS THAT CONTINUED U. S- PRESENCE IN AREA IS NECESSARY FOR ITS STABILITY (UPI, NYDN).

10. EVANS/ NOVAK (WP) IN SAIGON ALLUDE TO DANGER TO SAIGON AREA AND MEKONG DELTA WHICH WOULD BE POSED BY REOPENING OF KONGPONG SOM TO SUPPLY NVA IN SVN. GVN HAS BEEN MARKEDLY MORE SCRUPULOUS IN RESPECTING PARIS AGREEMENT, AND HAS BEEN RESTRAINED ABOUT CAMBODIAN SITUATION. GVN PM KHIEM PRIVATELY INFORMED US OFFICIALS LAST WEEK THAT GOVERNMENT DECIDED AGAINST SVN NAVAL

VESSELS PROTECTING SUPPLY CONVOY UP MEKONG INTO PP, MUCH LESS BROADER INTERVENTION, THOUGH ARVN GENERALS COMMANDING TROOPS ALONG BORDER ARE RESTLESS, PRIVATELY URGING INTERVENTION. GENERALS ARE AMGERED OVER HUNGARIAN AND POLISH IGNORING COMMUNIST ATTACKS ON TONG LE CHAN, AND OVER RELEASE OF ONLY 5,000 SVN POWS -- FEWER THAN ONE- TENTH BELIEVED CAPTURED. THIEU MOST LIKELY WILL SUPPRESS SVN ANGER RATHER THAN OFFEND MUCH OF WORLD AND RISK CUTOFF OF US AID. HARRIS POLL (PHINQ) SHOWS AMERICANS OPPOSING AID TO REBUILD SVN (52-36 PERCENT) AS WELL AS NVN (71- 18 PERCENT). ROGERS
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 070773

UNCLASSIFIED

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE070773
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: STAFF: PP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730442/aaaaioja.tel
Line Count: 168
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <16-Aug-2001 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980116
Subject: APRIL 16 INDOCHINA PRESS SUMMARY
TAGS: PFOR, US, XC
To: BANGKOK
JEC PARIS
LONDON
PARIS
PARIS
PHNOM PENH
SAIGON

SEOUL
VIENTIANE
WELLINGTON

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005